MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 FEBRUARY 1983

Lebanon

Lebanese Army units completed their deployment in the greater Beirut area "without significant incidents," according to Beirut radio. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan later declared that a process of uniting the Lebanese and strengthening the Lebanese Government's authority is underway, the radio reported.

Major Sa'd Haddad, leader of the "free Lebanon Army," deployed a "limited force" of armored personnel carriers in An-Nabatiyah, ITIM announced. An AFP report citing informed sources said the militia detachment entered the city "to take control." Another AFP report said President Amin al-Jumayyil requested U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon's intervention to stop "the extension of the state of free Lebanon" declared by Haddad. Meanwhile, Israeli officials said Israel and Lebanon have agreed that Haddad's militia will be "reincorporated" into the Lebanese Army although a Lebanese military source denied any decision had been made on Haddad's future, according to Jerusalem radio and AFP.

In another development gunmen attacked an Israeli patrol south of Sidon and killed three Israeli soldiers, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Israel

Former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will no longer participate in deliberations on Israel's policy in Lebanon. All of his authority on the senior steering committee for the negotiations with Lebanon will be transferred to Defense Minister-designate Moshe Arens as soon as he assumes his post, according to the paper MA'ARIV.

In another development members of the European Parliament delegation currently visiting Israel promised that they will work "to ease" the sanctions imposed on Israel in the wake of the war in Lebanon, Jerusalem radio announced.

Palestine National Council Session

Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, submitted his political report to the Palestine National Council (PNC). It included an examination of the current state of the PLO and the international situation before and during Israel's invasion of Lebanon, Algiers radio reported. Qaddumi called on the Palestinians to learn from the Israeli aggression and formulate a new plan incorporating the consolidation of unity and the strengthening of resistance inside the occupied territories, the radio added.

Addressing the PNC session, Syrian delegate Tawriq Salihah affirmed that the future of the Palestinian revolution is linked with Palestinian national unity, Algiers radio noted. According to SANA, Salihah reviewed the role of Syrian forces in Lebanon and declared that Syria will continue to carry out its honorable duties and will not be deterred from fighting. He asserted that those "wagering on the possibility of eliminating Syria by an Israeli military blow" must realize that Syria will endure and strike back even harder, SANA added.

During a news conference reported by Algiers radio, Fatah Central Committee member Khalil al-Wazir commented on progress of the PNC session and confirmed unanimity among the PLO factions on all points discussed. He denied rumors that some Palestinian elements had walked out of the meeting and stated that all participated in a "normal way." Expressing doubts about any possible U.S. guarantees for basic Palestinian rights, Al-Wazir announced that the PLO is about to publish documents by U.S. envoy Philip Habib

guaranteeing the security of the Palestinian civilian population if the Palestinians withdrew from Beirut, according to AFP. He asked what guarantees the United States can provide for the PLO's future after the Shatila and Sabra massacres, AFP added.

Cheysson Tour

Following his meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson expressed his conviction that Syria would withdraw its forces from Lebanon at the Lebanese Government's request when the Israeli forces withdraw completely, Radio Monte Carlo disclosed citing Cheysson's remarks during a Damascus news conference. Damascus radio said Cheysson called for an immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and for Lebanese authority to be restored throughout the entire country. The French minister concluded his visit to Syria and expressed satisfaction with his Damascus talks, according to the radio.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iran's Air Force and air defense units shot down two Iraqi aircraft, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio asserted. However, an Iraqi military spokesman denied the report and challenged Iran to prove its claims, INA reported.

In an open letter to the Iranian people broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn described Iran's recent offensive as an act that led to the deaths of "thousands" of Iranians without any useful results for the present or future of the Iranian people. Saddam Husayn urged each Iranian to ask himself why he is continuing a war that brings only losses and ruin to Iran. Regarding the Tehran rulers' call for overthrowing the Iraqi regime, he declared that the method used in Iran to depose the shah cannot be applied to Iraq because the Iraqi people and army are nationally and spiritually tied to their land and leadership.

In another development informed sources affirmed that the Iraqi president is preparing for an "urgent" visit to Cairo to discuss the Gulf war with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, the Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y Al-'AMM revealed 14 February. The sources noted that Jordan's King Husayn will attend some of the meetings, the paper added.

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KARMAL STRESSES DRA SEEKS REALISTIC SOLUTIONS

Part I of Interview

LD142035 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 12 Feb 83

[Part one of interview given by President Babrak Karmal to Delhi PATRIOT correspondent Sumit Chakravarty -- date, place not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] [Question] According to recent reports, three groups of rebels -- Islamic movement, Islamic jihad, and Islamic front -- engaged in activities against the DRA Government have supported a peaceful solution to the problem. Isn't this a sign that at least some sections of the rebels are losing their belief in a military solution? In this regard, how do you assess the recent decision of the U.S. Senate to increase military aid to rebels?

[Answer] The revolutionary process in our country is developing victoriously and is yielding important gains in the interests of all working people in Afghanistan. The main characteristics of the present stage of the development of the revolutionary process in the DRA are: crushing the main resistance of the enemies of the revolution and people, eliminating the basic centers of counterrevolutionary activities, weakening the morale of the armed counterrevolution against the DRA Armed Forces and the defense of the revolution, ever increasingly rallying the deceived people to the revolutionary government, attracting the huge masses of people to the new order, consolidating the bases of the national economy and the national democratic new order, censoring and strengthening the people's confidence in the party and government; securing the participation of the masses in political and social life, and maintaining democratic legality in all aspects of social life.

I think that if everyone thinks wisely, they will realize the undeniably successful development of our revolution. The last (?3) years experience of our revolution, despite its difficulties, have shown especially that the only way to solve the problems around Afghanistan is a peaceful solution in light of the peaceful proposals of the DRA Government and our principled policies in this regard. This is the reality everyone and especially our neighbors must acknowledge.

It is on this basis that rebels and those who deceived by the enemies of the revolution are losing their beliefs daily,. as you said, in continuing their armed struggle against the revolutionary power in our country. In addition, the DRA Government has issued an amnesty decree for those people deceived by the enemies and engaged in hostile activities against the revolutionary government which plays an important role in their joining the revolutionary order. In this regard, we have very important examples. We can mention the latest main examples such as the 2,500 deceived people in Mir Bachcheh Kut who have joined thousands of these people in Dar Suf, Herat, Balkh, Nangarhar, Paktia and so on, the announcement of the readiness of the elders of Spin Buldak to arm 10,000 youths with the help of the government to defend the borders and so on. A total of 21,000 deceived people who were previously engaged in antirevolution activities have given themselves up to government authorities with huge quantities of assorted weapons.

Our assessment in this regard is based mainly on two points. First, our humanitarian and flexible policy after 27 December 1979 has borne reasonable results and the other is that the widening support of masses for our humanitarian policies has resulted in strengthening the forces of revolutionary power which resulted in weakening the enemy.

We are sure that today the colorful myth of the coming into power of the counterrevolutionary bands in our country can no longer hold water because no one believes in it any longer. The leaders of the counterrevolutionary bands are no longer able to keep our deceived people in their circles with these pretexts.

Regarding your question on the recent resolution of the U.S. Senate on increasing aid to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, I would like to explain that Afghanistan has been the target of imperialist plots, conspiracies, and interventions since the beginning of the 1950's. The aim of imperialism in this regard is to divert Afghanistan from nonalignment and to force it to join aggressive military blocs. The intervention of U.S. imperialism in the internal affairs of the DRA began a more active and serious stage at the moment of victory of the April Revolution when crushing blows were inflicted on the interests of the oppressive ruling class in our country. At the outset, imperialism tried to obstruct the implementation of basic and deep changes in our country by means of external aggression and the explosion of revolution within. It tried to divert it from its original path and to create obstacles to the implementation of profound structural changes in our country. Imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, in the framework of the strategy of confrontation with the Afghan revolution, has for a long time been arming and training the Afghan counterrevolution and sending it into our country under the supervision of special instructors. The criminal imperialism of the United States has the lead role in intervening in the internal affairs of the DRA. The main aid to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries has always been provided by the United States.

The recent resolution of the U.S. Senate is a sign of the intensification of the Regan administration's aggressive policies, the transformation of the policies of the leadership of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries into the national policy of the United States, and the removal of the last veils from Washington's aggressive intentions toward our revolution and people. This means that the Reagan administration wants to openly continue the undeclared war against Afghanistan and to give new dimensions to its inhuman and antipeace policies in the region. The resolution of the U.S. Senate is in contradiction to the interests of the Afghan people, to the interests of the masses of the region, and to the cause of peace in the region and the world.

While people want the interventionist hands off our revolutionary country [words indistinct] believe the revolution of Afghanistan is irreversible and will open the way forward despite all difficulties.

[Question] With the recent decision of the U.S. Senate, tension in and around Afghanistan could be further escalated and this could have a major influence on the continued presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. At the same time, the presence of the Soviet Union's troops in Afghanistan is directly related to the DRA acquiring sufficient strength to defend the country and the gains of the April Revolution without the physical presence of Soviet troops. To what extent has the DRA government moved toward this objective and what are the prospects of a phased withdrawal of Soviet troops in the near future?

[Answer] The decision of the U.S. Senate dated 1 October 1982 was announced by [words indistinct] member of the Senate, at the time of one of the great victories of the heroic DRA Armed Forces and security forces in one of the regions which the enemy was calling an invincible fortress.

By itself, this is a direct reflection of the defeats suffered by sold-out elements to international imperialism, international reaction, and hegemonism, inflicted by the powerful forces of the Afghan people. In all cases, it is not accidental that when the counterrevolution suffers a crushing blow its cries and shouts rise up from Washington and other capitals. In the meantime, we regard this decision as an indirect [word indistinct] of the international imperialism centers, which, after more than 4 years, have been unable to keep the counterrevolution on its feet against the roaring revolutionary flood despite the support they have provided. We regard it as an admission that the imperialists did not succeed in disguising their clear interventions in the internal affairs of Afghanistan against the stong winds of international scandal and exposure. [as heard]

The removal of all the veils from the detestable face of the shameless intervention of international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, in our internal affairs is, in our opinion, a natural reaction to the ever-increasing stability of the situation in our country and to the establishment and consolidation of national sovereignty in the remote parts of the DRA.

We have said several times that the duty to struggle against and combat face to face the internal counterrevolution rests completely on the powerful shoulders of the Armed Forces, of the security forces, and of the true defenders of the revolution and, in general, on the will of our free and heroic people. The limited contingents of the Soviet Union, which came to our country at the request of the lawful Government of the DRA based on the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and good neighborliness signed on 5 December 1978, and on Article 51 of the UN Charter, as a part of their internationalist duty, are only a reserve force and a strong guarantor in our present struggle against continuous aggression from outside and also against the dangerous plans of the imperialists and their allies who have wanted and still want to burn South Asia and the Indian subcontinent in a regional war.

Therefore, in answer to your question, I would say that the role of the heroic Armed Forces and the security forces of Afghanistan, which are the expression of sovereignty and struggle against the rebels and in the defense of the gains of the revolution of our people, is different from the role of the limited military contingents of our great friend the Soviet Union which serve as a reserve force and guarantor of our national sovereignty, independence, and freedom in the face of any sort of military aggression from imperialist forces, and the protector of regional peace and stability. The presence of the Soviet troops, as stated in your question, has no direct relation with the acquisition of sufficient strength by the DRA. The DRA today has the power to defend the revolution and its revolutionary gains despite the increase in interventionist aid from imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism to rebels.

The limited military contingents of the Soviet Union in the DRA were invited for other factors and reasons, which are still present, and they will remain in our country until the reasons that caused us to ask for this internationalist aid no longer exist.

We clearly announced the specific and broad program for the solution of the problems surrounding Afghanistan, stated our proposals dated 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981, and said that we are ready to discuss these problems in peace talks with the neighboring countries of Pakistan and Iran; and if we receive international guarantees from the parties concerned not to repeat their aggression and intervention, we will prepare the timetable for the return of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union to their peaceful country. But, you can see that it is the imperialists who do not want to eliminate, in the framework of bilateral talks to seek a comprehensive solution, the reasons that resulted in the invitation to the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan.

And the decision of the U.S. Senate dated June last year is a clear sign of their sinister intentions. Instead of thinking of ending tension in this part of the world, created by their adventurous policies, they are thinking of how to increase tension and destabilization.

Therefore, the outlook for a possible phased return of the Soviet Union troops should be assessed from the view of outsiders' intentions and not from the view of how much strength we have to defend the gains of the revolution, which is beyond question.

As I also mentioned in a speech in Herat City, as far as we are concerned, we have come more than halfway on the road of peace. Our principled foreign policy in this regard is the indicator of our stand. We leave open the door for talks and reject the path of confrontation.

[Question] When I interviewed you on 4 February 1980, you stressed your government's intention to start the process of national reconciliation. How much has been achieved in this respect? To what extent has the DRA Government broadened its bases of support since 1980?

[Answer] The issue of maintaining complete domestic peace is one of the main aspects of domestic PDPA and DRA policies. Now the issue of maintaining domestic peace has top priority in the duties of all party and government organs all over the country. We proposed permanent and total nationwide peace for the creation of an atmosphere of tranquillity to enable our compatriots to serve their homeland and society freely and to solve their problems and difficulties through cooperation and understanding and not by force. This has been welcomed by the majority of our compatriots. The issue of maintaining total peace is not just a political propaganda slogan but an unavoidable necessity for our society. Also, this fully coincides with the humanitarian and peaceful objectives of the DRA and PDPA.

In this respect, there are clear and undeniable facts which show the true confidence of the people in the truth of the policies of the party and government. For some time now, in the remote parts of our country, the consultative local jirgas -- this positive and acceptable tradition of our society -- has been transformed into a strong factor in restoring order and peace to the country.

According to preliminary statistics, during the past 3 years, more than 400 local jirgas have been held in all parts of the country, attended by party and government representatives. These include jirgas by Pashtun, Hazara, Uzbek, Torkman, Nuristani, Pasha'i, and other tribes. The various tribes of the country have announced their support for the objectives of the revolution and of the PDPA. As a result of the successful growth in the process of nationwide peace and the implementation of the revolutionary of nationwide peace and the implementation of the revolutionary transformations, the social bases of the PDPA and of the DRA have been widely expanded. At the moment in our country, thousands of the toilers of Afghanistan have united under the single national banner in the DRA, the National Fatherland Front [NFF].

In its position as the ruling power in the revolution, the NFF has gathered under its leadership huge forces such as the trade unions, more than 160,000 members of the peasants cooperatives; more than 140,000 members of the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan; 90,000 members of the Democratic Women of Afghanistan; more than 14,000 members [as heard]; and thousands of intellectuals comprising the Union of Writers and Poets, the Union of Artists, the Union of Journalists, the Council of the Ulema and Clergy, the Union of National and Patriotic Traders, jirgas, and other organizations and individuals. I want to state clearly that the participation of the broad strata of toiling people in political and social life and in the process of revolutionary changes is unprecedent in the history of our country. Due to their oppressive and antipeople nature, former regimes in Afghanistan did not possess even minimum influence among the masses and acted by the sword.

However, today our toiling people, due to the principled and popular nature of the policies of the PDPA and of the DRA Government, are linking their destiny with the destiny of the revolution in the difficult conditions resulting from the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism, and resolutely are defending the aspirations of the revolution.

[Question] How do you evaluate the talks in Geneva between Afghanistan and Pakistan with the presence of the UN representative? For a long time you (?preferred) direct talks with Pakistan while that country opposed such talks. Are you hopeful that noticeable progress can be made for convening direct political talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan?

[Answer] The talks in Geneva between the DRA and Pakistan, with Mr Diego Cordovez, the representative of the UN secretary general, which took place in June 1982. were in accordance with our desire. Everyone is aware that the DRA, in pursuing its peaceful policy, has always been in favor of differences between Afghanistan and its neighbors being solved by peaceful means. Hence, we asked Pakistan and Iran, in a proposal dated 14 May and 24 August 1980, to sit with us in direct talks so that we can (?find) a suitable solution to the differences.

At these talks, our delegation would show the necessary flexibility and, in our opinion, tha talks could be useful and constructive and point the way forward. We must say that we are and will be in favor of direct talks at any time. In our view, such talks are tangible and effective, and through this channel we can reach a conclusion quickly. We are hoping that the representative of the UN secretary general, by his good will efforts, may be able to prepare the ground for direct talks between the interested countries.

If the other parties to the talks, with the necessary good will and realistic vision, show a readiness to find a political solution to the issue, we can express the hope that direct and serious talks, will bring about positive and productive results.

[Question] What is the scale of outside interference against the DRA? Is it true that the rebels are being trained by Israeli advisers? Has there been any chan e recently in the material for the rebels coming from the PRC?

[Answer] In answering your question, I should say briefly and in a formulated manner that the scale of military and financial assistance of the United States, the leader of international reaction in the undeclared war of these satanic powers against our country, the DRA, has assumed extensive dimensions. It would be enough to draw your attention to the latest speech by Ronald Reagan, president of the United States, delivered in the last week of December 1982, and which was broadcast by the notorious and ill-famed voice of America, this propaganda and mudslinging machine of the rapacious U.S. monopolies. Ronald Reagan impudently declared that the Washington government is not tired of supporting the Afghan counterrevolutionaries and will not abandon them.

You should note that Reagan, as a most senior person in the United States, has named 1983 as the year to submerge the people of Afghanistan -- people who have chosen the way of independent national development, through blood and fire; and thus in accordance with the diabolical plan of the United States and its allies, the DRA is to acquire the status of the countries of the free world admittedly, Reagan's view of the so-called free world, like Pinochet's Chile, the bloody dictatorship of El Salvador, aggressive Israeli Zionism, and other reactionary surrogates of world reaction.

The imperialist countries are so impudent and interfering that they openly spoke about sending assistance to the counterrevolutionary rebels in the 37th session of UN General Assembly. The United States so far has provided the counterrevolutionaries with aid worth $218 million and has allocated $105 million more aid to the bandits in 1983.

The Federal Republic of Germany has given DM60 million and Britain, 18 million pounds of assistance to the counterrevolution in Afghanistan.

The position of the Chinese hegemonists can easily be understood from the editorial comment in RENMIN RIBAO dated 27 December 1982, which stated that the PRC will continue sending moral and material aid to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

The assistance of U.S.-led international reaction to the counterrevolutionary forces all over the world is not a new matter. America and its allies, from Chinese hegemonism to Western Europe, send extensive military and monetary assistance to counterrevolutionary terrorist organizations such as Afghan counterrevolutionary bands, to the remnants of the overthrown dictatorships of Samoza and Pol Pot [words indistinct], to the Israeli Zionists, to the militarist dictatorship of Pakistan, and so forth.

The United States and its allies in the aggressive NATO pact, the Chinese hegemonists, Israeli Zionists, and reactionary petrodollar regimes of the region are all participating at various levels in this unholy war against the DRA.

Let me say that the undeclared war against Afghanistan is part of the overall offensive of imperialism and reaction against the forces of peace, democracy, and social progress. The Coordinating Bureau of the foreign ministers of nonaligned countries, which recently met in Managua, capital of Nicaragua, resolutely condemned the extensive military assistance of America and Israel to the reactionary and counterrevolutionary forces in Latin America and declared it a threat to the sovereignty and national independence of the countries of Central America, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

The increase in the scale of assistance of the international reaction, headed by U.S. imperialism, to the counterrevolutionary bands of Afghanistan, on the one hand, indicates the strength and resistance of the Afghan people and of the DRA under the leadership of the PDPA in the face of this undeclared war and, on the other hand, indicates the policy of exacerbating international tension, the clear-cut inclination toward the rapid revival of the cold war, the arms race, and military confrontation, and the desire to destroy the gains of detente, which were achieved as the result of the great struggle of the peace-loving countries of the world led by the Soviet Union.

Experience shows that despite all the criminal plots of the counterrevolution and of its international supporters, the revolutionary process in our country has assumed wider scope and is achieving new victories.

[Question] Western propaganda claims that the Soviet troops have used chemical weapons in Afghanistan on 47 occasions between 1979 and 1981, as a result of which 3,000 people have been killed. What do you say in this regard?

[Answer] This is a lie. The propaganda apparatus of the imperialist countries, especially the U.S. mass media, have for years been spreading rumors that the Soviet Union has used chemical weapons in Laos, Kampuchea, and later in the DRA. In addition to the mass media, U.S. congressmen and high-ranking officials from NATO countries also are participating in this propaganda war. This hue and cry is being raised to divert the attention of world public opinion from the extensive armaments program of the Pentagon, from the increase in the production of chemical weapons to 5 million units and from the allocation of $2.5 billion for the prouduction of such weapons over the next 5 years and for the preparation of chemical war by the Pentagon. On the other hand, they want to conceal the fact that for 50 years, the United States have avoided joining the 1925 Geneva convention on the ban on stockpiling and on the complete elimination of chemical weapons and has refused to discuss the signing of such a pledge.

During the years of its aggressive war in Indochina, the United States used 100,000 tons of chemical agents in North Vietnam alone. The horrible effects of this crime can still be seen on the babies and environment of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Even today, the soldiers of the dictatorial regime of El Salvador are using chemical weapons made in America against the patriotic forces of that country.

At the insistence of the United States, the United Nations organization sent a team of experts to Pakistan to investigate the matter. The team could not find the slightest evidence of the use of chemical weapons by the limited contingents of Soviet troops. And against that, we have presented irrefutable proof of the use of chemical weapons by the hired mercenaries of U.S. imperialism in our country, and we have presented those people who used these weapons, and the weapons themselves, to the international press. The use of chemical weapons by our enemies is an undeniable reality. Yet their allegations are empty and groundless.

Part II of Interview

LD142150 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 13 Feb 83

[Part two of interview given by President Babrak Karmal to Delhi PATRIOT correspondent Sumit Chakravarty -- date, place not given -- read by announcer]

[Question] You are engaged in a struggle for the national, economic, and social reconstruction of Afghan society based on its customs, traditions, culture, and religious values. To what extent can Indian-Afghan cooperation help your development efforts? What can you tell us about the revival of the Afghan-Indian commission and the recent increase in the number of Indian specialists working in Afghanistan? And also, in what areas do you envisage Indian-Afghan cooperation being developed?

[Answer] Our aims and goals are clear. We want what is demanded by the majority of our people, that is, we want to preserve our freedom and independence, and seek the progress and development of our beloved homeland. We respect the religious feelings of our compatriots and, with all the means and possibilities at our disposal, we will try to maintain conditions in which every toiling individual in the country will live and work in freedom and prosperity, to have bread, clothing, and shelter and to enjoy prosperity for his family in the country.

To effect national and democratic changes, despite the continued undeclared war which has been unleashed by imperialism and regional reaction against our country, we have short-term and long-term plans for the construction of a new society in our country.

It is natural that to rescue our people from this backwardness which has been left to us by the rule of antipopular and reactionary regimes and the sinister effects of the long sway of colonialism and colonial rule, we need an atmosphere of peace and sufficient material and moral assistance. For this purpose, we will (?attract) the cooperation of friends and selfless and unconditional foreign help for the progress and development of our society. The friendly and traditional relations that we have with India permits us to ask them for help in developing our society in different areas and to extend the spheres of current cooperation. From 14 to 17 May 1982, the first meeting of the Afghan-Indian commission for economic, trade, and technical cooperation was held in Kabul, and the results of its work have been beneficial. The Afghan side made specific proposals to the Indian side in all areas, such as public health, industry and electricity, agriculture and rural development, transit facilities, export-import, and others. Specific proposals to extend the scope of current projects were discussed and our Indian friends accepted them in principle.

I will point out that recent talks between our country and India have yielded very fruitful results. A protocol was concluded in economic, trade, and technical cooperation, and the 2 December 1982 protocol on medial cooperation signed in Kabul has opened broad and new horizons for mutually benficial cooperation between us. We are forging ahead in our cooperation. I must emphasize another important point -- the consolidation of relations between our countries is a vital element for the preservation of peace and security in our region and in the world.

[Question] Leaders in the West speak about restoring nonaligned status to Afghanistan and thus imply that as a result of the presence of Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan this country has lost its nonaligned status. What is your answer in this regard?

[Answer] The opinions of some Western leaders are completely groundless and far from the truth. Afghanistan is not only a member of the Nonaligned Movement but is one of its founders. The DRA is one of the active members of this movement and will remain so. The presence of the limited Soviet military contingents in Afghanistan never undermines our nonaligned status. At this very moment, foreign forces are present in some countries of the Nonaligned Movement. The DRA invited the military contingents of the Soviet Union in accordance with a valid treaty with the Soviet Union, which has been registered in the United Nations to help the people, the Armed Forces, and the security forces of Afghanistan in repulsing and repelling armed aggression from abroad. This action of the DRA is in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter which considers collective defense permissible.

The aforementioned Western leaders oppose any action that is against their interests, no matter how legal these actions. They even oppose the conclusion of friendship and cooperation treaties between a number of Asian and African countries and the Soviet Union. However, the United States considers its own right to sign military treaties with countries, put at their disposal every kind of modern weapon, and have military bases in those countries. It doesn't say that this is contrary to the stand of the nonaligned countries. In fact, these Western leaders are opposed to the progressive participation of the Nonaligned Movement. They want to create discord and factions inside the movement and sever it from its true friends. They want to weaken the movement in this way, to weaken its unity and thus exploit it for their own interests. This is the truth about the intentions and opinions of some leaders in the West.

[Question] What do you expect from the nonaligned summit to be held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of the Indian prime minister who will head the movement for the next 3 years, replacing the president of Cuba, Fidel Castro? Do you intend to take part in the nonaligned summit which will be held at the beginning of March? Are you interested in Mrs Gandhi playing a role to preserve the unity and solidarity of the Nonaligned Movement against foreign pressures seeking to destroy this movement by raising issues such as the Afghan question, and what role can she play?

[Answer] The DRA as an active and founder member of the Nonaligned Movement and a long-standing and sincere friend of India is very pleased that New Delhi has been chosen as the venue for the seventh nonaligned summit. This fact pleases us further in that Mrs Ghandhi, prime minister of India and a sincere friend of Afghanistan, will be chairing this movement for a period of 3 years, replacing another sincere friend of Afghanistan, Comrade Fidel Castro. The desire for peace, tranquillity, and nonviolence are in the nature of the great Indian people.

This policy consituted the political platform of Mohandas Gandhi and other Indian leaders at the time of the freedom struggle and the independence of India from the colonial yoke. P.J. Nehru, former prime minister of India, a prominent international personality and one of the founders of this movement, had a prominent role in all phases of its foundation.

Mrs Gandhi, sincere daughter of Nehru and an outstanding international politician whose efforts preserve peace and stability and eliminate tensions in the region and in the world are obvious, will succeed in accomplishing this important task.

We are pleased that Mrs Gandhi is well aware of the situation in the region and of its developments and of the reasons for the creation of tension in the region. Her rational and realistic policy in view of the situation in the region pleases us especially. The question of war and peace always attracts the attention of the people of the world. The Nonaligned Movement, which is viewed as one of the major factors in achieving stability and long lasting peace in the world, should make the necessary efforts to preserve peace and not let warmongering circles remain active. The DRA and India both pursue a policy of peace and adhere to the principles of peaceful coexistence, nonaggression, the nonuse of force under any circumstances in resolving international disputes, good neighborliness, and others. These are all accepted principles of the Nonaligned Movement. I am completely sure that Mrs Gandhi, by pursuing the principled policy of her country, will render a valuable service in consolidating and strengthening the movement and will make every effort for its unity and solidarity.

As for us, we will fully cooperate with Mrs Gandhi in accomplishing her tasks in the movement. We will be very pleased to participate in the forthcoming nonaligned summit in New Delhi and to take active part in consolidating the unity of the movement against imperialist intrigues.

[Question] The nonaligned countries want to live in peace and accord. It is regretable that two nonaligned countries, Iran and Iraq, have been fighting for a long time. It is equally regretable that hostility among three nonaligned countries, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, has badly affected peace and stability in this part of the world. Can India play an effective role in the restoration of accord among Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan? India has good relations with Iran and Afghanistan and is trying to improve its relations with Pakistan; so can India simultaneously help toward strengthening regional peace?

[Answer] We are sure that the continuation of war between Iran and Iraq is only in the interests of imperialism, headed by the United States. From the beginning of the war, we have believed this and still believe that the continuation of war will result in the weakening of the anti-imperialist forces in the region and will subject the peoples of the region to the plundering imperialist monopolies; and finally, the crushing of the national freedom movement of the region. We believe this futile war, this fratricidal war which enhances the strength of imperialism and Zionism in the region, should be ended as soon as possible and both countries should resolve their dispute by way of negotiations.

I agree with you that the situation that has been created around the DRA as a result of imperialist interference and the undeclared war by imperialism against our country -- and other causes -- such as the unprecedented resolution of [words indistinct] by the United States, the efforts of U.S. imperialism to increase its military presence in the region and in the Indian Ocean and the lunatic attempt by U.S. imperialism to create military bases near the DRA and Indian borders, have endangered peace and stability not only in the region but throughout the world.

After the overthrow of the regime of the shah in Iran, U.S. imperialism is trying to find someone to replace the gendarme of the region. And now this replacement, which will defend the interests of the plundering imperialists in the region and put itself at the service of the international strategic interests of the United States, is seeking to turn the military regime in Pakistan into a base for its militarist aims and guardian of its imperialist interests. [sentence as heard] All these situations and conditions oblige the peace-loving countries in the region, (?including) Afghanistan and India, not to remain indifferent to these dangerous threats.

We appreciate all the efforts of the friendly country of India in resolving the issues of the region and eliminating tension in this important part of the world. We support these efforts. We believe that the policy of imperialism in the region goes not only against the DRA but also against the foreign policy of India which follows an independent foreign policy. The aim of imperialism is to create external provocations and to sow destruction inside India. We believe the maintenance of peace is in the interest of all countries in the region. Because of India's sincere and peaceful policy and in view of its own security considerations, India is working hard to resolve the issues in the region. The DRA seeks a realistic solution to the problems of the region, including the Afghan issue.

BALKH PROVINCE 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' CAPTURED

LD111053 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Thousands of people, the workers of Balkh Province -- including elders, religious leaders, ulema, workers, peasants, members of party and social organizations, teachers, students, workers, and staff from various departments -- gathered today to mark the courage and heroism of Balkh Province's security forces in crushing treacherous elements that were threatening the homeland and revolution in that province.

A spokesman for the Balkh Province security force told the BAKHTAR correspondent in Mazar-e Sharif that 118 counterrevolutionary elements and their leaders were crushed and 89 of these thieves and plunderers were captured as a result of a successful operation recently carried out by the province's heroic security forces. Some 119 assorted weapons were captured, including 3 antitank mines, 45 handgrenades, 60 mortar mines, 1 heavy caliber machinegun, 2 rocket launcher missiles, 1,990 rounds of assorted ammunition for U.S. and Chinese weapons, telephone switchboards, 60 cameras, 1 movie camera, and (?2) binoculars. A large number of incriminating documents providing their link with the counterrevolutionary bands outside the country also were seized.

According to another report, some 70 inhabitants of the Saydara and [name indistinct] villages in the Keshm District of Badakhsan Province, who as a result of the hostile propaganda of the enemies of the revolution, people, and homeland, had been engaged in a series of subversive and disruptive activities, recently realized the truth of the April Revolution and the humanitarian policy of the party and state and laid down their weapons to join their people and government.

(Pahlawan Khalil) and (Hedayatollah), two of their ringleaders, expressed repentence for their past actions. They promised to be loyal to their state and people and not to spare any effort toward realizing the aims of the April Revolution for the rest of their lives.

DHAKA, CHITTAGONG SCHOOLS CLOSED UNTIL 27 FEB

BK151546 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] An official announcement in Dhaka today says all educational institutions of Dhaka metropolitan areas will remain closed till the 27th of this month.

Chittagong University and all other educational institutions in the Chittagong metropolitan area have also been closed till the 27th of this month.

VIOLENCE CITED IN DHAKA, CHITTAGONG, NOAKHALI

BK151811 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] In Dhaka City this morning, a number of unruly elements tried to obstruct traffic by putting up barricades in municipal, (?commercial), and industrial areas at [names indistinct] and Municipal Corporation office area in the old city.

A press note issued this evening says law enforcement agencies rushed to the spot, removed the barricades, and restored normal traffic. Another group of unruly elements set fire to the Municipal Corporation office and an adjacent bank, causing widespread damage to the office property. The timely intervention of the law enforcement agencies brought the situation under control.

As a patrolling group of law enforcement agencies passed the office of a political party in (Nababpur) Road, it was fired upon from the office. It also was attacked with stones and bricks. On seeing no other alternative, the law enforcing agencies had to open fire in self-defense. As a result, two people were injured; one died after they were taken to the hospital.

Several government vehicles were set on fire at the (?PNT) College in Matijhil. By noon, no more untoward incidents were reported from there.

In Chittagong, when unruly elements marched in violation of the martial law regulation, the law enforcement agencies tried to stop them. The crowd became violent and started throwing stones. The law enforcement agencies first fired tear gas shells and later on resorted to baton charges to disperse them. At one stage, the mob snatched a rifle from a constable. The police had to open fire in self-defense and, as a result, several people were injured. One died in the hospital and the condition of another is critical.

In Lakhinpur, several people marched in violation of martial law regulations. The police on duty along with a magistrate arrested the ringleaders of the procession. While the arrested persons were taken to Lakhinpur police station, several people attacked the police in order to release them. The police had to fire one round in self-defense. One person was injured and sent to district hospital for treatment.

In the process of maintaining law and order, the police had to make some arrests in Dhaka and other parts of the country for violation of martial law regulations.

Meanwhile, the identity of the person killed in yesterday's violent incident in Dhaka is now known. He is (Jaman Abauddin), son of (Muzaffar Chowdhury) of south (Bilai) of (Satkhari) police station in Noakhali District. He was a worker in an electric spare parts shop.

OFFICIAL TALKS OF 'CALCULATED STUDENT VIOLENCE'

BK151328 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1257 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] The zonal martial law administrator [ZMLA] Zone A, Major General Mohammad Abdur Rahman, today held a meeting with the chairmen of ward committees of Dhaka Municipal Corporation [DMC] at the ZMLA's headquarters at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar to discuss the (?present) law and order situation. The chairman of the DMC women's affairs committee also attended the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, the ZMLA advised them to keep a vigilant eye on the situation in view of the calculated student violence aimed at disrupting peace and tranquillity in the city and thereby adversely affecting the normal life of the citizens. In particular he asked the chairmen to nip in the bud false rumors and harmful propaganda which might be spread by them and the political elements supporting them. He asked the chairmen to keep on eye on the arrival of new faces in their areas and watch their movements and activities.

Referring to the wanton destruction of public property in the city yesterday by the students and their associates, the ZMLA said that no one has a right to damage or destroy property which belonged to the people. General Rahman said that the general officer commanding the 9th Infantry Division warned that the Army has been put on alert and they are patrolling in the city areas. Any attempt by anybody at damaging or destroying any property or otherwise creating lawlessness will be be properly dealt with.

The ZMLA also wanted the chairmen to motivate the people in their respective wards about keeping the city clean and healthy. He also stressed the need of [words indistinct] the ongoing cleaning campaign by setting examples of personal participation in it.

DCMLA WARNS OF 'ANTISOCIAL, ANTISTATE' ELEMENTS

BK160453 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Deputy chief martial law administrator [DCMLA] and minister for communications, Rear Admiral M.A. Khan, said the government has formulated a massive development program for peace and prosperity of the 90 million people. He was addressing a cross section of people at Tangail yesterday.

The DCMLA cautioned people against the antisocial and antistate elements who might try to obstruct the development efforts of the government. These elements are very much in the habit of disrupting the normal life by creating a chaotic atmosphere with spreading propaganda at the social and national levels. They are also engaged in a conspiracy to destroy our heritage by importing alien thinking and ideology. He urged the people to extend their wholehearted cooperation to the government in undoing the conspiracy of the antipeople clique.

DHAKA CURFEW RELAXED; CAMPUS CURFEW UNCHANGED

BK160905 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0855 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Special announcement]

[Text] The curfew hours in the Dhaka metropolitan area have been relaxed. Tonight, the curfew hours in the metropolitan area, except the Dhaka University campus, will be from 2200 to 0500. In the Dhaka University campus area, the curfew hours will be from 1800 to 0600.

AFP REPORTS POLITICAL LEADERS 'ROUNDED UP'

BK160944 Hong Kong AFP in English 0930 GMT 16 Feb 83

[By Golom Tahaboor]

[Text] Dhaka, Feb. 16 (AFP) -- Political leaders rounded up after bloody student riots here earlier this week in which at least three people died were still being detained today, sources said.

The leaders including ex-Foreign Minister Kamal Hussain and Awami League leader Hasina Wazed were rounded up yesterday and driven off to an undisclosed destination.

Meanwhile Dhaka itself appeared calm today following two days of rioting. After a dusk to dawn curfew, traffic was back on the roads and commuters were making their way to work.

The violence which erupted on Monday in clashes between students and police at Dhaka University campus continued in the capital yesterday and also spread to other parts of the country including Chittagong, Rajshahi and Noakhali. Three people were officially listed dead -- two in Dhaka and one in Chittagong -- but unofficial figures put the toll much higher.

The detained political leaders belonged to the 15-party right and left political alliance which was believed to be behind the student protest. They were rounded up by troops from a residence where they gathered yesterday noon for consultation over the situation. After being held for two hours at the residence of Dr Kamal, a former presidential candidate, they were taken off in waiting vehicles.

There was no official comment so far on the arrests.

Sources close to Dr Kamal's residence said about 30 people including 16 known political leaders were rounded up but it could not be ascertained if they were arrested on specific charges.

Besides Sheikh Hasina and Dr. Kamal, those detained included another former Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, former Awami League Home Minister Abdul Mannan, Lady Awami League leader Motia Chowdhury, Secretary General of Communist Party Mohammad Farhad, a leftist party leader and young former M.P. Rashed Khan Menon, Ekta Party Chief Syed Altaf Hussain and Awami League Joint Secretary Tufail Ahmed.

Some of the other leaders who were scheduled to attend the meeting reportedly arrived at the residence to see the police cordon and left the scene immediately.

Several hundred students arrested during Monday's clashes and also yesterday were seen taken to a summary martial law court yesterday. Unconfirmed reports said they were seen sitting on a courts lawn under tight security until the afternoon. It could not be ascertained whether they were just produced before the court or their trial had begun.

A dusk to dawn curfew was clamped on Dhaka and all educational institutions in the capital have been closed down till end of this month.

In Chittagong, the country's second largest city after Dhaka, all educational institutions were closed following student-police clashes in which one person was officially declared dead. Police had to open fire when a section of mob snatched away a rifle from a constable.

REPEAT VOTE ORDERED IN ASSAM; SECURITY TIGHTENED

BK151659 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] The Election Commission has ordered repoll in 137 polling stations in 12 assembly constituencies in Assam which went to the polls yesterday. A repoll is also being ordered in some polling booths spread over four other assembly constituencies. The action has been taken on the basis of reports from the returning officers of the constituencies. Polling in several booths was adjourned yesterday following incidents of violence and booth capturing.

In the first phase of polling a total of 6,300 polling in 61 constituencies were scheduled to be covered. A spokesman of the Election Commission told newsmen in New Delhi today that, in five constituencies, one polling station each will go for repoll. The number of polling stations in 7 other constituencies ranges from 2 to 35. He said details are awaited from four constituencies.

The dates for repoll have yet not been fixed, but indications that are that it would be held before counting of votes is expected to begin on Monday. The spokesman said all arrangements are now complete for the second phase on polling on Thursday in 36 assembly and in parts of 10 Lok Sabha constituencies. Electioneering in these constituencies ended today. About 2.5 million voters are expected to exercise their franchise. The polling in the remaining 27 constituencies will be held on Sunday.

The Assam Government has strengthened the security measures in Gohpur area of Darrang District following Sunday's violent incidents and disturbances and is determined to deal firmly with any violence. The adviser to the Assam governor, R.V. Subramaniam, told All India Radio Gauhati correspondent that the state government will mobilize all its resources for this purpose. Subramaniam said the government will continue to give full protection to the candidates, their supporters, and others participating in the elections even after the polls as long as necessary and there should be no apprehension about it. He expressed confidence that voters will come forward to exercise their franchise fearlessly in the next two rounds of polling on the 17th and 20th of this month.

Death Toll 'Exaggerated'

BK160320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] In Assam, the government has taken steps to ensure peaceful polling in the second phase beginning tomorrow. The adviser to the governor, Mr R.V. Sabramaniam, said that adequate security and protection will be given to the voters to enable them to exercise their franchise.

In a press note in Gauhati, the state government categorically denied reports which appeared in a section of the press that over 100 people were killed in a large-scale violence in Gohpur. The government described the reports as highly exaggerated and speculative. The press note added that according to authoritative information, only 10 deaths have occurred in various incidents in the area. The state government has sanctioned 500,000 rupees for providing relief to the affected people who are now taking shelter in different places. Ex-gratia payment of 5,000 rupees has been made to next of kins killed in incidents. [as heard]

CONGRESS-I CANDIDATE IN ASSAM KILLED 15 FEB

BK160312 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] In an incident in Darrang District [Assam], the Congress-I candidate, Mr Satya Narayan Ram, contesting from the Bishwanath assembly constituency, was killed by a group of people yesterday. He was addressing a meeting in (Athigam).

VAJPAYEE WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION FROM PARTY POST

BK121325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Feb 83

[Text] Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee has withdrawn his resignation from the presidentship of the Bharatiya Janata Party in deference to the wishes of the party's national executive. The executive began its 2-day meeting in Jaipur today. Talking to newsmen, the vice president of the party, Mr Ram Jethmalani, denied that the resignation was a sign of a rift in the party. He said the party would soon undertake a detailed analysis of its failure in the recent elections.

11 BIHAR STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTERS RESIGN

BK160055 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Excerpts] In Bihar, resignations of 11 ministers of the 37-member Council of Ministers have been accepted by the state governor, Dr A.R. Kidwai, today on the advice of the state chief minister, Dr Jagannath Mishra.

This includes six Cabinet ministers, four ministers of state, and one deputy minister. According to an official press note, this was done with a view to reestablish the image of the present ministry.

The All India Radio correspondent understands that vacancies created by the resignations will be filled up shortly.

PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH PRC

BK150634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Feb 83

[Text] The prime minister has regretted the Chinese criticism of the inclusion of the Arunachal troupe in the cultural pageant at the closing ceremony of the ASIAD. Talking to newsmen in Shillong, she said such an attitude would create a very difficult situation.

Asked about the recent talks with Chinese leaders, Mrs Gandhi said that the discussions had been continuing. The Chinese are taking a strong attitude on various problems, she added.

ZIA CALLS 1983 LOCAL BODIES ELECTION YEAR

BK161021 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said 1983 is the local bodies election year and the elections would be held strictly on nonparty basis and anyone belonging to defunct political parties would not be allowed to contest these elections. He was addressing the Sibi local bodies convention at Sibi a short while ago. He said it would be against the spirit of the local bodies to bring in party system in these elections and it would be followed very strictly.

Referring to the report of the local bodies commission, he said a number of good suggestions have been made in the report and after consideration and approval by the federal Cabinet, it would be implemented. Details of the president's speech are still coming in.

PROTOCOL ON TRADE, COOPERATION SIGNED WITH DPRK

BK070421 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Feb 83

[Text] Pakistan and the DPRK have signed a protocol providing for the setting up of joint ventures, having cooperation in the economic, scientific, and technical fields, and promotion of trade between the two countries. The protocol was signed by the federal finance minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, and the visiting trade minister of the DPRK, Choe Chong-kun, at the end of the first session of the Pak-DPRK joint economic committee in Islamabad today. Both countries will also sign agreements separately on trade and payment for further expanding trade between them and the cultural exchange program for 1983-84.

Zia, Trade Minister Meet

BK070422 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Feb 83

[Text] DPRK Trade Minister Choe Chong-kun called on President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi last evening. He discussed with the president matters of mutual interest including trade cooperation.

The DPRK trade delegation is arriving in Lahore from Islamabad this morning. The delegation will hold talks with the chairman of the water and power development authority and office bearers of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The delegation members will also visit Lahore museum and Shalimar Bagh. The delegation will leave for Karachi tomorrow morning.

POLISH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 15 FEB

BK150714 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] A Polish delegation led by the deputy minister of foreign affairs arrived in Islamabad this morning on a 3-day visit to Pakistan. The delegation is to hold talks with the foreign secretary in the afternoon.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,220

LD151736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Communique No 1,220 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 1527 and 1528 today in the Wal Fajr operational sector, two enemy aircraft were destroyed by one of our air defense units and by the fast-flying pilots of our Air Force. Sporadic fighting and exchange of fire continued yesterday on the country's western fronts. Islam's victorious troops, defending the positions and regions under their protection and opening fire on enemy positions and fortifications on every front, destroyed more than 10 light and heavy arms emplacements, one cannon emplacement, and one truck of the Ba'thist mercenaries. Also the selfless sappers of the Ground Force's fighting engineering units, while clearing the border areas, discovered and neutralized more than 250 antitank and antipersonnel mines planted by the Iraqi forces.

On the Marivan front, Islam's mighty heroes opened heavy artillery fire on the positions and units of the Iraqi forces, inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamists, destroying part of the installations and buildings of the Iraqi (Al-'Inab) Garrison and setting fire to and destroying several of their vehicles.

During the past 24 hours, fighting continued on the country's southern fronts, the intensification of the exchange of fire being fiercer in the (Az-Zubaydat) region than on other fronts.

In the Wal Fajr operational sector, Islam's combatants continued to consolidate their defensive positions and to open fire on the enemy's fortifications and defensive positions.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, our Gendarmerie combatants, returning fire on enemy positions and trenches on the opposite side of the Arvand Rud, inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy.

The Saddamist criminals, by opening artillery fire on parts of the city of Abadan, yesterday damaged several houses and one secondary school and wounded four of our dear compatriots.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

VELAYATI, MUSAVI COMMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD152029 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Institute of Higher Training was inaugurated in a ceremony this afternoon attended by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and Foreign Minister Velayati.

During the inauguration of this institute, whose graduates will provide the manpower requirements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at home and abroad, Foreign Minister Velayati, referring to the need to set up such an institute under the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran for strengthening missions abroad, said that, because of the sensitive nature of foreign policy and to bring about fundamental changes in it, efforts are being made to attract to this ministry faithful hezbollahi forces for the purpose of complementing the missions, particularly those in Third World countries.

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, referring to the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its basis, the policy of "neither East nor West," said that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is engaged in implementing this policy and this institute, too, will become a theoretical and practical school for carrying out this policy and from the very first it should pursue issues whose nature it should assess. [as heard] Emphasizing the importance of political science, the prime minister spoke about reactions to various human cultures, understanding of the value of each of these cultures, and the richness of Islamic and Iranian culture and affirmed that our foreign policy should be the continuation of domestic policy.

Musavi then spoke about the sensitivity of the events within our society and analyzed the speeches of the imam of the Islamic nation in connection with foreign policy. In conclusion, he referred to the documents of the den of espionage, saying that these documents demonstrate the arrogant powers' approach to the Third World and the meek countries and could constitute a new source for criticism and study and could then be provided to the Third World countries as an achievement.

AFGHAN 'ISLAMIC REVOLUTION' LEADER WELCOMED

LD151142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Our correspondent reports that Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mohammad (Asgari), one of the leaders of the Afghan Islamic revolution, has arrived in our country where he was welcomed by thousands of theological students and Afghan Muslim immigrants.

IMAM'S DECREE OFFICE DISSOLVES COMMITTEES

GF150640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] According to our correspondent, the central headquarters for the implementation of the imam's decrees held a meeting last night, attended by the Supreme Court president and the prime minister.

At this meeting, a report was presented by the implementation committee and dossiers were examined. On the basis of certain complaints received regarding the special purge committee for the Agriculture Ministry, the headquarters for the implementation of the imam's decrees announced that it is henceforth dissolved due to violation of the rules for the reconstruction of the special committee and of the laws governing its reconstruction. The recommendation of this committee will be submitted to the administrative justice court for the final decision on its fate.

Similarly, the implementation committee decided during last night's session to submit a report on violations in Hormozgan Province to the administrative court. On the basis of the complaints about the reconstruction manpower committee for the Education Ministry of the Hormozgan Province, this committee has also been dissolved due to its prying into people's private matters and circumstances, violation of the shar'ia principles, breach of privacy. The dossiers on the crimes committed have been submitted to the public courts and it has been decided that people who have been wronged in this way by the reconstruction committee will be honorably reinstated to their posts.

During this session, reports on other cases were also reviewed and people whose violations were confirmed by the headquarters were summoned for explanations; the final decisions on their fate were made.

15 February Meeting

GF160714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Feb 83

[Text] Our correspondent reported that the central headquarters for the implementation of the imam's 8-point decree met last night. The state general attorney and the prime minister attended the meeting.

First, the report of the delegation sent to Esfahan was reviewed and the problems some people have created, which hamper the delegation's work, were investigated. It was agreed that the judicial and administrative branches of the province would decisively follow up on these problems hampering the delegation's work and those responsible would be prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Also during the meeting of the headquarters of the implementation of the imam's 8-point decree, reports were presented on the work of the delegation sent to Khorasan Province and on the management of Hamadan prison. The meeting also discussed the records setting the borders of Hormozgan Province.

KHOMEYNI CANCELS APPOINTMENTS FOR 15 DAYS

LD151112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Imam Khomeyni's office announced that his appointments have been canceled for 15 days beginning Thursday, 17 February. The text of the statement:

In His exalted name. This is to inform the dear compatriots and the martyr-nurturing nation, who have already made appointments with his eminence the imam that, as usual, beginning Thursday, 17 February, the imam's appointments are being canceled for 15 days. All those who have already made appointments are asked to contact the office to set up another appointment, when their turn comes, with the 15-day delay beginning Thursday, 3 March.

[Signed] Imam Khomeyni's Office, 15 February

Receives 'Martyrs' Families

LD152019 Tehran IRNA in English 1921 GMT 15 Feb 83

[Text] Tehran, Feb 15, IRNA -- A group of families of martyrs of Hamef and Tehran called on Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning. (?At the meeting), after a [words indistinct] a group of children of the martyrs, Hojjat ol-Eslam Madhi Karrubi, the head of the Martyrs' Foundation, praised the sacrifices and struggles of the martyrs' families.

Then Imam Khomeyni responded to the well-wishing slogans of his visitors.

NVOI COMMENTARY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSTITUTION

TA032101 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian at 1730 GMT on 3 February carries the commentary "The People Demand Implementation of the Constitution, Without Any Alteration." It says: With the approach of the fourth anniversary of the victory of our nation's revolution, our homeland's people once again recall the imam's remarks during the first days of the revolution's victory when he said: The Government of the Islamic Republic is a government of real democracy. On the basis of this principle, the Iranian people voted for the Islamic Republic's system and confirmed the Islamic Republic's Constitution by their decisive vote.

However, the passing of time shows that a certain trend is confronting the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line and is trying under the Islamic guise, to violate all the principles of the revolution and the Constitution and to consign the issue of freedom and democracy to oblivion, or to recognize this right for a specific group only.

The implementors of this wrong approach are the rightists opposed to the imam's line who are present and have influence both among the clergy and state and revolutionary institutions and who are supported by the CIA-afflicted hojjatis, the liberals, and the counterrevolution. These gentlemen whether wittingly or not, and most probably wittingly, strive to divert the revolution from its popular and anti-imperialist course and to empty it of its anti-imperialist content.

It is on the basis of this principle that we are observing that a number of officials, hand in hand with suspicious elements opposed to the imam's line, want to transform inquisition and struggle against dissenters, or anticommunism, into government policy. Everyone is aware that this approach and anticommunism have always been the most important political-ideological weapon in the hands of international imperialism, which it has exploited and is exploiting to suppress or divert liberation and anti-imperialist movements. "It is a cause of deep regret that in our country too a specific group is employing this weapon of imperialism and world-devouring American in order to emasculate the revolution."

People expect that the Islamic Government, which is dutybound to implement the Constitution's principles, will prevent the subversive activity of superficial and monopolist groups, headed by the hojjatis and the liberals, and will prepare the necessary conditions for the establishment of real freedom and democracy in our country by fully implementing the Constitution, including the chapter pertaining to the rights of the nation.